

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

**Call to Order:** Chair Alan Doane, on February 9, 2017 at 8:00 AM, in Room 137 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Alan Doane, Chair (R)  
Rep. Seth Berglee, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Virginia Court, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)  
Rep. Bob Brown (R)  
Rep. Jennifer Eck (D)  
Rep. Bill Harris (R)  
Rep. Ellie Hill Smith (D)  
Rep. Kathy Kelker (D)  
Rep. Theresa Manzella (R)  
Rep. Nate McConnell (D)  
Rep. Shane A. Morigeau (D)  
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)  
Rep. Zac Perry (D)  
Rep. Matt Regier (R)  
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)  
Rep. Barry Usher (R)  
Rep. Kirk Wagoner (R)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Sara Fleming, Committee Secretary  
Helen Thigpen, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 295, 2/7/2017; HB 370, 2/7/2017; HB 394, 2/7/2017

**HEARING ON HB 370****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:06 Rep. Bryce Bennett (D), HD 91, opened the hearing on HB 370, Revise laws regarding the recording of public meetings.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:03:23 John MacDonald, Montana Newspaper Association (MNA)  
00:05:07 Dewy Bruce, Montana Broadcasters Association  
00:05:58 Jim Rickman, Montana Newspaper Association (MNA), Montana Freedom of Information Hotline

**[EXHIBIT\(juh29a01\)](#)**

00:06:43 SK Rossi, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None**Informational Testimony:** None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:08:17 Rep. Manzella  
00:08:36 Rep. Bennett  
00:09:04 John MacDonald, MNA  
00:09:40 Rep. Wagoner  
00:10:09 Chair Doane  
00:10:47 Rep. Bennett

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:12:05 Rep. Bennett

**HEARING ON HB 295****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:13:20 Rep. Tom Jacobson (D), HD 21, opened the hearing on HB 295, Increase fine for gating a public road.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:16:15 Chris Marchion, Anaconda Sportsman Club  
00:19:48 Mark Sweeney, Self  
00:21:33 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)  
00:25:07 Steve Platt, Helena Hunters and Anglers  
00:26:04 Dan Roper, Montana Autobahn  
00:26:52 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation

**[EXHIBIT\(juh29a02\)](#)****[EXHIBIT\(juh29a03\)](#)****Opponents' Testimony:**

00:28:42 Abigail St. Lawrence, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association  
00:31:32 Chuck Denowh, United Property Owners of Montana

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:36:42	Rep. Kelker
00:37:21	Harold Blattie, MACo
00:39:10	Rep. Harris
00:40:01	Rep. Jacobson
00:47:50	Rep. Manzella
00:48:23	Harold Blattie, MACo
00:52:45	Rep. Usher
00:53:50	Rep. Jacobson
00:54:05	Harold Blattie, MACo
00:55:05	Rep. Usher
00:55:43	Rep. Jacobson
00:57:14	Harold Blattie, MACo
00:59:54	Rep. Morigeau
01:01:09	Rep. Jacobson
01:07:14	Rep. Morigeau
01:07:50	Chuck Denowh, United Property Owners of Montana
01:10:12	Rep. B. Brown
01:11:31	Harold Blattie, MACo
01:12:34	Rep. B. Brown
01:13:54	Rep. Jacobson
01:15:01	Vice Chair Berglee
01:16:34	Harold Blattie, MACo
01:17:49	Vice Chair Berglee
01:18:30	Rep. Jacobson
01:21:01	Rep. Kelker
01:21:58	Harold Blattie, MACo
01:22:43	Rep. Manzella
01:24:13	Abigail St. Lawrence, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association
01:27:20	Rep. Harris
01:28:44	Harold Blattie, MACo
01:29:15	Rep. Morigeau
01:29:50	Nick Gevoch, Montana Wildlife Federation
01:31:07	Chair Doane
01:31:28	Harold Blattie, MACo
01:32:09	Chair Doane
01:32:22	Rep. Jacobson
01:33:27	Chair Doane
01:34:03	Harold Blattie, MACo
01:36:15	Vice Chair Court
01:36:48	Harold Blattie, MACo

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:38:23	Rep. Jacobson
01:41:17	Recess
01:53:06	Reconvened

**HEARING ON HB 394****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:53:15 Rep. Willis Curdy (D), HD 98, opened the hearing on HB 394, Adopt national popular vote bill.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:02:39 Lynn Boone, Self  
02:05:04 Claudette Morton, Montana League of Women Voters  
02:06:14 Gary Wolfe, Self

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:09:49 Rep. Regier  
02:10:08 Rep. Curdy  
02:12:13 Rep. Usher  
02:12:28 Rep. Curdy  
02:14:53 Rep. Regier  
02:15:12 Rep. Curdy  
02:15:41 Rep. Wagoner  
02:17:23 Rep. Curdy  
02:21:52 Rep. Harris  
02:23:13 Rep. Curdy  
02:24:19 Rep. Morigeau  
02:24:53 Rep. Curdy  
02:25:56 Rep. McConnell  
02:26:07 Rep. Curdy  
02:26:24 Rep. Kelker  
02:27:31 Rep. Curdy  
02:28:34 Rep. Usher  
02:28:56 Rep. Curdy  
02:32:29 Chair Doane

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:32:46 Rep. Curdy

**Committee Business:**

02:37:35 Chair Doane  
02:38:27 Vice Chair Court  
02:38:35 Helen Thigpen, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
02:39:18 Chair Doane

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 02:39:28

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Sara Fleming, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([juh29aad.pdf](#))**